

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUCAR 03169 231326Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 NIC-01 ACDA-19 IO-14 CIAE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /137 W

----- 090322

R 231142Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9436

DIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLPN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONGEN MUNICH

USAREUR

EUCOM

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 3169

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, RTPN XH

SUBJECT: ALLEGED SOVIET REQUEST FOR CORRIDOR ACROSS ROMANIA

REF: A. BUCHAREST 2676

B. BUCHAREST 3018 NOTAL

C. BELGRADE 3444 NOTAL

1. IN DISCUSSING TITO VISIT RECENTLY WITH YUGOSLAV
CHARGE BUKUMIRIC I ASKED HIM WHETHER THE ALLEGED
SOVIET DEMAND FOR A CORRIDOR TO BULGARIA HAD COME
UP. BUKUMIRIC SAID IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED
IN PRIVATE TITO-CEAUSESCU MEETINGS BUT HAD NOT BEEN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUCAR 03169 231326Z

RAISED BY THE ROMANIAN SIDE IN ANY OTHER DISCUSSIONS.

2. HE WENT ON TO ASK ME IF I WAS AWARE OF A DIFFERENT SOVIET REQUEST "SEVERAL" YEARS AGO FOR A WIDE GAUGE RAILWAY LINE FROM THE USSR TO BULGARIA AND OF AN EQUALLY DEFINITE ROMANIAN REJECTION OF THE PROPOSAL. BUKUMIRIC THOUGHT IF POSSIBLE SOVIETS MIGHT BE RAISING THIS PROPOSAL AGAIN BUT WAS CONVINCED THE ROMANIANS WOULD NEVER AGREE. NEITHER I NOR ANY OF THE PRESENT STAFF RECALL THIS PARTICULAR VARIATION FROM THAT PERIOD, ALTHOUGH SWEDISH DIPLOMAT RECALLS HAVING HEARD THE STORY 3-4 YEARS AGO, AND THE JULY 6 ISSUE OF THE ECONOMIST MENTIONS RAIL IDEA AS CURRENT.

3. INDICATIVE OF CURRENT OFFICIAL ROMANIAN HANDLING OF THE CORRIDOR RUMORS IS THE RESPONSE OF ILIESCU (MFA HEAD OF DIRECTORATE III). ASKED BY WESTERN EMBOFF ABOUT CORRIDOR, ILIESCU TWICE AVOIDED DIRECT DENIAL THAT SOVIETS HAD BROACHED SUBJECT BUT STRONGLY RE-ITERATED ROMANIA'S DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN ITS SOVEREIGNTY, RECALLED GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY'S LEGAL ROLE IN APPROVING ENTRY OF FOREIGN TROOPS, SAID ROMANIA WOULD NEVER ALLOW SUCH A CORRIDOR WHICH WAS CONTRARY TO ROMANIAN POLICY.

4. COMMENT: RUMORS ABOUT THE CORRIDOR CONTINUE TO FEED ON EACH OTHER BUT THE INTENSITY IS PERHAPS SOMEWHAT LESS THAN LAST MONTH. GERMAN AMBASSADOR BELIEVES THAT ONE SOURCE OF THE ORIGINAL RUMORS WAS THE ROMANIAN MILITARY ATTACHE IN BELGRADE, AND WE KNOW THE ROMANIAN STAFF ASSISTANT OF AP CORRESPONDENT HERE WAS ANOTHER. ON BALANCE, OUR EVALUATION REMAINS ABOUT THE SAME AS IT WAS, NAMELY THAT THE SOVIETS MAY BE PRESSING FOR MORE FREQUENT TRANSIT RIGHTS, AND PERHAPS HAVE INDEED REVIVED THE RAIL LINE PROPOSAL. THE ROMANIANS FOR THEIR PART COULD BE TAKING PREVENTIVE ACTION TO FEND OFF THE WORST POSSIBILITIES.

BARNES

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY BUILDUP, FOREIGN RELATIONS, BOUNDARY CLAIMS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUCHAR03169
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740198-1088
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740726/aaaaawio.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. BUCHAREST 2676
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <25 JUN 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEGED SOVIET REQUEST FOR CORRIDOR ACROSS ROMANIA
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, XH, (TITO, JOSIP BROZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005